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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, PFS

DATE: 21 March 1957

FROM : Chief, LAS

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report #12

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

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The ~~LAS~~-sponsored inter-agency roundtable of directors of government language training programs has had its second of what are to be monthly meetings. Presently participating agencies are State, NSA, Air, USIA and CIA. Navy and Army are to be invited. Purposes include exchange of information on programs, requirements, and problems, and identification of areas of cooperation that will result in more effective and more economical performance of responsibilities by each agency. A clearing house of information is being maintained by LAS. Accent is on working level informality and cooperation rather than high level formality and coordination. Results of substantial financial savings through coordination already have appeared.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

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1. We have succeeded in assembling resources that permit us to meet requirement for intensive Polish without resorting to external contract arrangements, thereby saving approximately \$8,400. [redacted] is serving as linguist. One full-time informant, otherwise lazily unemployed, has been loaned without cost to OTR, and one contract lab technician is serving as a part-time informant. Course will run for 12-15 months and will include area training in English and in Polish. Three staff employees and one dependent are enrolled.

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2. Final arrangements have been made with NSA to run a special course in Indonesian for four Agency employees without cost to OTR. Ability to make these arrangements has permitted a saving of about \$2,100.

3. FE is exploring possibilities for development of a training program in [redacted]. We are in preliminary stages of discussion.

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4. Preliminary arrangements are being developed by C/LAS and director of the Air Force language training program whereby we may have the identity of persons who have had intensive language training and are no longer on active duty. This has been done for C/JOTP. We are considering a similar arrangement with Army and Navy.

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5. We are still endeavoring to locate one or two Turkish informants to relieve [REDACTED] of some of his 40-hours-a-week in the classroom and to provide more personal drill than now is possible.

6. QRP's certified two persons for intensive Polish and one person (JOT [REDACTED] for [REDACTED]). The Polish Panel was exceptionally profitable for its discussion which resulted in considerable revision and improvement of the specifications of the course. 25X1A9a 25X1A 25X1A9a

7. [REDACTED] called on [REDACTED] Chief of WE, with whom he worked in the old SO/FBW 10 years ago, to discuss the new LAS programs such as the intensive language courses, area courses of concern to him, and the Americans Abroad, including Western Europe course to be inaugurated 25 March. [REDACTED] showed considerable enthusiasm for LAS activities, and hopes to make arrangements for maintaining his own French. He promised to promote the new Americans Abroad course at his next staff meeting. 25X1A9a 25X1A9a 25X1A9a

8. The students' critiques of the [REDACTED] course which ran last week have been analyzed and results tabulated by [REDACTED]. This study will be distributed to DTR, TO's, and certain guest panel members for information and guidance. [REDACTED] both contributed to this course. 25X1A 25X1A9a

9. Arrangements are being completed to begin a part-time, 6-month, elementary spoken Romanian course beginning within two weeks, to meet a requirement for two people from SE, one from TSS and one from ORR. The class will be taught by [REDACTED] with the aid of a native speaker. 25X1A9a

10. The Regional Survey--Economic Geography of the Soviet Bloc started on 11 March with five students, four from the Agency and one from ONI.

11. The Regional Survey--East Asia started on 18 March, with a total of 22 students registered, 14 from the Agency and eight from other IAC components.

12. On 13 March, one person was tested in Chinese (Mandarin) by special request. Miss [REDACTED] served on the oral panel. 25X1A9a 25X1A9a

13. On 15 March, [REDACTED] described the development of the testing program for the inter-agency roundtable on language training.

14. In a renewed effort to complete our files of school catalogues, 114 letters were recently sent to colleges and universities throughout the United States requesting both graduate and undergraduate catalogues, and any bulletins on special courses and programs, including summer sessions. We have requested that CIA be placed on the permanent list of these schools.

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15. [REDACTED] conferred with Mr. [REDACTED] of TSS about testing the relative merits of two types of dual-track tape recorders now in use in the laboratories. Mr. [REDACTED] proposed first the use of a standard intelligibility test proposed further to provide data on the relative structural strength of various model tape recorders which will result from tests now being undertaken by TSS. Mr. [REDACTED] has added the valuable suggestion that the intelligibility test be given using all of the foreign language speaking members of the staff as subjects. This will make possible a closer approximation to the foreign language application of this machine in a test.

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16. Current enrollment in internal language training programs is [REDACTED] in courses and [REDACTED] in self-study. During the past week, the language laboratory was used for a total of 460 hours by [REDACTED] students.

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17. [REDACTED] signed his contract as laboratory technician on 12 March, making him an official contract employee of LAS.

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18. Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] entertained the staff and contract employees of Eastern Studies, LAS, at a cocktail party at their home on 17 March.



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